

specimen of versification that any language has ever produced. Horace — read six odes, 1st Bk. with myself.

Saturday. — This evening I again with increased admiration compared the passages of Lucretius and Virgil. I wonder extremely that Lucretius is not a greater favourite. . .

Friday. — Lucretius — on Death: a sublime chapter, full of original and grand ideas, but the versification is rugged and wants the harmonious now of Virgil.

An independent attack upon the *Iliad* leads to a curious outburst against his unlucky editor : —

Tuesday. — Euripides — *Alcestis*, to 98 line. Verses. Cicero — the *Oration for Milo*. Latin Exercise. Drawing. Began with myself the *Iliad*, Valpy's Edition; the notes are prolix and numerous, but little information is to be gleaned from them. Valpy rejects the digamma and supports the ridiculous theory of the self-sufficient Professor of Edinburgh. The Doctor and the Professor are equally contemptible. They mistake incapacity for originality, and endeavour to compensate for their moderate talents by rejecting every established rule and advocating every ridiculous system. One libels Heyne and the other criticizes Hermann. Illumined by such stars as these, surely the horizon of classical literature can never be clouded !

Greek metres, ' a dry but, I am afraid, "necessary study, ' were a sore affliction : but the young student was not easily discouraged.

Friday. — Again at the Greek Metres — bewildered! lost! miserable work, indeed. Writing. Prepared Greek. Read Gibbon, Vol. 9. Homer — the *Iliad*, Bk. 1st by myself.

Saturday. — Read *Literary Character* [his father's essay], 3 first chapters.

Monday. — Lucian, *E/cKX^o-ia @rj<av* [sic]. Tibullus, Lib. 3, Eleg. 6. *Henriade*. Gibbon — Vol. 9. Livy. The Speech of Minutius and Fa. Maximus. Greek metres — a ray of light. Latin verses. Homer with myself.

Wednesday. — Greek metres — tolerable success.

Demosthenes, as we have seen, was not found easy, nor at first did he inspire much admiration.